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*11.*  
**SOCIETY AS IT IS**

AND

**SOCIETY AS IT OUGHT TO BE;**

OR,

**SOCIAL DISEASES  
AND SOCIAL REMEDIES.**

PART I.

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BY A

LIVERPOOL MERCHANT. (*J. Smith*)

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LIVERPOOL:

MAY BE HAD OF THE BOOKSELLERS.

1847.

## SOCIETY AS IT IS.

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IN Colquhoun's great work, the "Wealth and Resources of the British Empire," published in 1813, will be found tables which he justly calls, "A Map of the Social State of the British Empire," drawn from official documents and other sources, the best that could be obtained on the subject.

In these tables you find the number of the whole population in 1812, and the annual income of the nation. The population was then about 17 millions, and their annual income about 430 millions of pounds sterling. You also find the population ranged, in his map, into different ranks, classes, and employments, with the nearest approximation that could be made to the number, income, and revenue of each class. In the following rearrangement of these tables all the sums are the same, and the whole are included under the six following heads:—

1st, THE PRODUCERS OF WEALTH.

2nd, CAPITALISTS, THE SUPERINTENDENTS AND DIRECTORS OF  
THE PRODUCERS OF WEALTH.

3rd, DISTRIBUTORS OF WEALTH.

4th, TEACHERS AND FORMERS OF CHARACTER.

5th, GOVERNING CLASS.

6th, NONPRODUCING AND IDLE CLASSES.

## PRODUCERS OF WEALTH.

Labour is the only source of wealth. Property is only the savings from former labour. The classes who labour with their heads and their hands, in cultivating the soil,—in the production of textile articles for clothing, bedding, drapery, upholstery, &c.,—in the erection and furnishing of buildings for all purposes,—in the construction of roads, railroads, canals, bridges, &c., with their appurtenances,—in the building of ships and other craft,—in the making of machinery,—in the working of collieries, mines, fisheries, &c.,—are, without question, the only producers of wealth, not only for the supply of their own wants, but for supplying the wants of all other classes; and yet these tables prove that this class receive the smallest amount of the wealth they produce, in proportion to their numbers, of any class in society. Reason and justice say that this class ought at least (and must be, before society can be in a right state) well fed, clothed, lodged, and educated, and them and their children provided for in sickness, infirmity, infancy, and old age, before any part of the wealth they produce is distributed among the idle and useless members of society, instead of which, at least one tenth of them are paupers. The immense improvements that have taken place in the modes of producing wealth, by the invention of superior machinery,—by the aids of science and the minute division and subdivision of labour,—enabling the workman, in many departments of labour, to produce ten-fold, an hundred, and even a thousand-fold more wealth than his ancestors could a century ago,—prove that the condition of the producer, instead of being worse, under a just system of distribution, would be greatly superior to what it ever was before. Improvements and inventions must and will go on, and it is to the interest of all classes, under a wise and just distribution, that they should go on, till all the reasonable wants and desires of mankind are fully gratified. From the ingenious workmen, and from the ingenious and reflective members of the class of superintendents of labour, nearly all the useful inventions for economizing labour and the cost of production have proceeded.

Every individual in society is naturally entitled to the whole produce of his labour, and this class produces all the wealth that is used, consumed, and enjoyed by itself as well as by all other classes. But, to enable them to produce large quantities of wealth, and to produce it of the best quality, they must, first, have persons to organize them and to direct their operations. Secondly, to save their time and enable them to devote the whole to the business of production, there must be persons employed to exchange and distribute the articles they make. Thirdly, as their powers of production will be proportioned to their education and general knowledge, it is just as necessary that a class of persons should devote their time and labours to the formation of the characters of the rising generation, and to the diffusion of scientific and mechanical knowledge among the whole population. Fourthly, for preserving the peace and good order of society, and protecting all classes in the peaceful pursuits of industry, and in the use and enjoyment of their property, it is necessary that a class of persons should devote their time and labour to the business of governing the people nationally and locally. And all these classes—the superintendents of labour, the distributors, the instructors, and the governors—must be supported in some way by the labourers; and the larger the amount received by these classes, the smaller must be the share of the wealth that is produced that will remain for the producers. Hence the necessity that the services performed by these four classes should (for the interest of the producers, which ought to be the primary object with all classes in all countries) be performed by as few persons and with as little expense as possible, consistently with their being done well and efficiently. But unfortunately, owing to the malarrangements of society, in all countries called civilized, a fifth and a very numerous and expensive class—the class of idlers—exists, which, by means of monopolies of various kinds, rents, usury, and swindling, contrive to live upon the products of the industry of the labourers, without rendering any service to society, or giving any thing in return for what they receive; and it is for the interest of all the industrious classes that no such class as this should exist at all.

# FIRST CLASS. PRODUCERS OF WEALTH.

	Population.	Annual Income.	Individual Income.	No. in Family.	Family Income.	Comparison with Labourers.
1. Artizans, Handicraftsmen, Mechanics, and Labourers, employed in Manufactures, Buildings, and Work of every kind .....	4,343,389	£. 49,054,752	£. 11	4	£. 44	1
2. Labouring People employed in Agriculture, Mines, and Minerals, including Earnings of Females .....	3,154,142	33,396,795	11	4	44	1
3. Aquatic Labourers in the Merchant Service, Fisheries, Rivers, Canals, &c. ....	400,000	8,100,000	11	4	44	1
4. Paupers producing by Labour, in addition to Allowances	774,200	3,871,000	4	4	16	$\frac{4}{11}$
5. Umbrella Makers, Silk Lacc Workers, Embroiders, Domestic Spinsters, Clearstarchers, &c. ....	150,000	3,500,000	12	4	48	$1\frac{1}{11}$
6. Artists, Sculptors, Engravers, &c. ....	25,000	1,400,000	56	6	336	$7\frac{1}{3}$
7. Pensioners receiving for Labour, in addition to Pensions	46,000	420,000	9	4	8	$\frac{2}{11}$
	8,892,731	£99,742,547				

N.B.—These Tables, of course, include Men, Women, and Children belonging to each Class.

## SECOND CLASS.

## SUPERINTENDENTS AND DIRECTORS OF LABOUR.\*

It is for the interest of society in general, and ought to be made the interest of every individual in society, that the superintendents and directors of the wealth producers, the labouring classes, should be possessed of the requisite experience and capital to enable them to form large establishments, in the most convenient, pleasant, and healthy localities, arranged upon the most approved and most scientific principles, and to avail themselves of all the aid that chemistry, mineralogy, botany, agriculture, mechanics, mathematics, engineering, machinery, and the best inventions of all kinds, together with the most perfect division and subdivision of labour, the combination of all the various operations in one establishment for the commencement and completion of the articles produced, and the cheapest and most speedy modes of conveyance of the raw materials used, and of the finished articles produced, to and from the best markets; to the end that all articles should be produced in the largest quantities, of the best quality, and in the greatest perfection, in the shortest time, with the least labour and expense, and with the greatest amount of health, ease, and comfort to the producers.

A great deal has been done already for the accomplishment of the above objects, as far as the interest and profits of the superintendents and directors of labour are concerned, but very little attention, comparatively, has hitherto been paid to the interest, health, and comfort of the labourers. Why do not manufacturers and masters study the neatness, cleanliness, health, and comforts of their workmen, in the erection of their dwellings and workshops, so that the idea of beauty and pleasure may be associated with all their operations? In many cases this might be done without any additional trouble and expense to themselves. When masters become Christians, loving their neighbours as themselves, this will be attended to. Associated homes, connected with each factory, in which the same attention is paid to the introduction of mechanical and scientific modes of preparing food, of lighting and warming the building, washing of clothes, bathing, and other means of preserving the health, economizing the means, and increasing the happiness of their workmen, might at the same time be made profitable to themselves, and the greatest blessing to their country.

As this class requires men of very superior talents and large experience, they ought, in the present state of society, to receive a larger remuneration than the labourers for their services.

## CAPITALISTS,

THE SUPERINTENDENTS, EMPLOYERS, AND DIRECTORS OF THE PRODUCERS OF WEALTH.

	Population.	Annual Income.	Individual Income.	No. in Family.	Family Income.	Comparison with Labourers.
1. Farmers .....	1,540,000	£. 33,600,000	£. 22	6	£. 132	3
2. Manufacturers, employing Capital in all branches,—as Cotton, Wool, Flax, Hemp, Leather, Glass, Pottery, Gold, Silver, Tin, Lead, Copper, Iron, Steel, and other Metals, Silk, Paper, Books, Gunpowder, Paint- ers' Colours, Dyes, Soap, Candles, Tobacco, Beer, Porter, Spirituous Liquors, Sweets, &c. ....	264,000	35,376,000	134	8	1072	24½
3. Persons employing Capital in making various kinds of Wearing Apparel, Tailors, Hatters, Shoemakers, Mantua Makers, Milliners, &c. ....	218,750	7,875,000	36	6	216	5 nearly.
4. Persons employing Professional Skill and Capital as Engineers, Surveyors, Master Builders, &c. ....	43,500	2,610,000	60	7	420	9½
5. Master Ship and Boat Builders, &c. ....	3,000	402,000	134	8	1072	24½
	2,069,250	£79,863,000				

## THIRD CLASS.

## DISTRIBUTORS OF WEALTH.

The business of this class is, first, the storage of wealth in depots, warehouses, and shops; secondly, the carriage of goods and the remittance of money from place to place, as the wants of the population require; thirdly, the sale or exchange of wealth, wholesale or retail. As these processes, as often as they are repeated, must each time add something to the prime cost price of the articles (which consists of the time, labour, and materials expended in making them,) without increasing their real intrinsic value, it is evidently for the interest of society that goods should pass through as few hands as possible between the producer and consumer; and as experience proves that goods can be distributed (as well as produced) in large establishments with much fewer hands and much less capital, in proportion to the business done, and consequently at less expense to the community, it is evidently the interest of society that distribution should be carried on upon a large scale and in large establishments, and not by innumerable petty dealers, as at present.

In each city, town, and village, there should be one or more large retail stores, according to the population of each place, in the most convenient situations, constructed in the best and most scientific manner, for stowing, preserving from damage, and dealing out all kinds of goods required by the inhabitants, with the least expense, time, and labour. Secondly, at all junctions of a number of railroads, and other suitable places, there should be large wholesale stores for foreign and home goods, for the supply of the retail stores in the towns and villages in the district, containing all kinds of goods used and consumed in such districts. Thirdly, besides these there should be, in all sea-port towns, large wholesale depots for the reception of foreign goods and produce imported, and for British goods and produce intended for exportation, on the same plan as the Albert Dock, in Liverpool. Large grazing grounds, pens, styes, sheds, &c. might be provided, at the railway junctions, for the reception and sale of sheep, cattle, pigs, horses, &c.; and market halls, as at present, would be required for the sale of butchers' meat, fruit, vegetables, and other perishable articles.

As this class produce no wealth, but merely carry goods, when made, from place to place, exchange money for money, goods for money, and money for goods, without adding one farthing to the real value of either, as few of this class should be employed as possible, consistently with efficient, economical distribution, and the convenience and comfort of the people generally. As the parties engaged in superintending this department must also be men of great talent and experience, they are entitled to a liberal remuneration; but, when society is properly organized, this remuneration will not be by profits on prime cost, but by handsome salaries, in proportion to the amount of business done and talent required.



THIRD CLASS.

DISTRIBUTORS OF WEALTH.

	Population.	Annual Income.		Individual Income.	No. in Family.	Family Income.	Comparison with Labourers.
		£.	£.				
1. Shopkeepers and Tradesmen retailing Goods .....	700,000	28,000,000		40	6	£. 240	5½ nearly
2. Lesser Merchants trading by Sea and Brokers .....	159,600	18,354,000		112	6	672	15 full
3. Eminent Merchants, Bankers, &c. ....	35,000	9,100,000		260	10	2600	59
4. Innkeepers and Publicans licensed to sell strong drink..	437,500	8,750,000		14	8	112	2½
5. Clerks & Shopmen to Merchants, Shopkeepers, & Brokers	262,500	6,750,000		14	5	70	1½
6. Chemists, Druggists, Apothecaries, and Surgeons, retailing Drugs and Medicines .....	45,000	2,700,000		60	7	420	9½
7. Principal Warehousemen, selling by wholesale .....	5,400	723,600		134	7	938	21
8. Hawkers, Pedlars, Duffers, &c. with and without Licences	5,600	63,000		11	4	44	1
9. Persons keeping Houses for Lunatics .....	700	35,000		50	8	400	9½
	1,651,300	£74,475,600					

## FOURTH CLASS.

## FORMATION OF CHARACTER.

The proper business of this class is, the training of the whole population, to the highest extent of which their natures are capable, from infancy and through life, physically, intellectually, morally, and practically, in order to make every individual wise, virtuous, useful, and happy. The individuals composing this class ought to be men and women of the greatest talents and the best characters, and their number should be commensurate to their great work, and no class can be more useful, important, honourable, or more deserving of a liberal remuneration for their services. Large revenues have been devoted by the state, and by charitable individuals, to this class, for the church, for the universities, and for various secular institutions and schools for training youth, which, if wisely economized and their benefits justly distributed, would go far towards effecting all the purposes of this class; but any reasonable additional sum required for these purposes would be wealth most beneficially expended. At present this class is not duly appreciated, and the most useful members are miserably underpaid.

Man is compelled by his constitution or organization to receive his opinions and his feelings independently of his will. His opinions or his feelings, separately or unitedly, form his will or motive to act, and decide his actions; and what his opinions and feelings shall be, and consequently what his will, or motive, and actions shall be, depend upon the circumstances preceding his birth, which influence his organization, physical and mental, at birth, and the influence of the training he receives and the circumstances which surround him from birth and through life. Hence man is entirely the creature of circumstances, and his character is formed for him and not by him. The proper method of education, or formation of character, then, is to remove human beings entirely from all the inferior circumstances that produce ignorance, prejudice, and vice, and to surround them with those circumstances only that will produce wisdom, truth, virtue, and happiness.

If, therefore, men were formed into communities of united interests, consisting of from 1000 to 3000 individuals, and separated from all the deteriorating influences of the present competitive state of society, and the rising generation, from a very early age, were to be placed in their large boarding schools, entirely under the care of a large number of properly qualified, wise, and virtuous teachers, a greater progress would be made in every thing that adorns and dignifies humanity, and a greater amount of happiness would be enjoyed by all, than we have hitherto seen in any part of the world.

FOURTH CLASS.

FORMERS OF CHARACTER, TEACHERS, EDUCATORS, &c.

	Population.	Annual Income.		Individual Income.	No. in Family.	Family Income.	Comparison with Labourers.
		£.	£.			£.	
1. Persons educating Youth, Schoolmasters, &c. ....	210,000		7,140,000	34	6	204	4½ full
2. Clergymen with small salaries .....	87,500		3,500,000	40	6	240	5½
3. Consulting and other Physicians, Surgeons, &c. ....	45,000		2,700,000	60	7	420	9½
4. Dignified Clergymen with large salaries .....	9,000		1,080,000	120	8	960	22 nearly
5. Educators in Universities and chief Schools .....	3,496		524,400	150	8	1200	27
6. Clergymen of the Dissenting persuasions .....	20,000		500,000	25	5	125	3 nearly
7. Spiritual Lords or Bishops .....	720		240,480	334	15	5010	114
8. Persons employed in Theatrical pursuits .....	3,500		175,000	50	6	300	7 nearly
	379,216		£15,859,880				

## FIFTH CLASS.

## THE GOVERNMENT, GENERAL AND LOCAL.

This class are the *servants* of the public, invested by the people with supreme power, and to the people they are responsible for using it aright—not for their own private advantage and aggrandizement, but to enable them to administer impartial justice,—to suppress violence,—to defend the weak against the strong,—to protect the persons, property, rights, and privileges of all their fellow countrymen, both at home and abroad,—and to prevent poverty, ignorance, vice, and crime, by the adoption of the best possible system of national education, and by furnishing constant beneficial employment for the whole population, and by surrounding them with those circumstances only that have a tendency to produce knowledge, virtue, health, peace, and happiness. This is the business of all good governments. As the whole of this class are consumers and not producers, the expenses of government ought to be reduced as much as possible, consistent with the public peace and safety. A great proportion of the expenses of our government are not merely useless, but are highly injurious, fostering corruption, luxury, and idleness.

## GOVERNMENT, ITS CONNEXIONS AND ASSISTANTS.

	Population.	Annual Income.	Individual Income.	No. in Family	Family Income	Comparison with Labourers.
		£.	£.		£.	
1. The King and his Family .....	50	146,000	2,920	50	146,000	3,318
2. The Prince Regent, &c. ....	50	172,000	3,440	50	172,000	3,909
3. The remaining Princes and Princesses of royal blood ...	200	183,000	915	40	36,600	832
4. Persons of the higher Civil Offices .....	24,500	3,430,000	140	10	1,400	32
5. Persons of the lower Civil Offices .....	90,000	5,400,000	60	8	480	11 nearly
6. Judges, Barristers, Attorneys, Clerks, Assistants, &c. ....	95,000	7,600,000	80	8	640	14½
7. Military Officers, Surgeons, Quarter and Paymasters, Engineers, &c. ....	40,000	4,200,000	40	6	240	5½
8. Naval and Marine Officers, Surgeons, Purser, &c. ....	25,000	2,095,000	50	6	300	7 nearly
9. Common Soldiers and Non-commissioned Officers, Regular, Militia, Artillery, &c. ....	450,000	9,800,000	9	4	36	9½
10. Seamen in Navy, Marine, and Revenue Service .....	320,000	7,204,680	10	4	40	19
11. Military, Naval, and Medical Half-pay and Superannuated Officers, Chaplains, &c. ....	14,500	856,600	20	6	120	2½
12. Pensioners, (In and Out,) and at Greenwich, Chelsea, &c.	46,000	630,000	4	4	16	4½
	1,105,300	£41,717,280				

## SIXTH CLASS.

## IDLE, USELESS, AND MISCHIEVOUS CLASSES.

Society is bound to provide for all the reasonable wants of the widow, the orphan, the infant, the aged, the sick, the infirm, the idiot, the insane, and others incapable of supporting themselves by labour; and is also bound to find labour and wages sufficient for their support to all persons who are not able to procure work for themselves. And all persons who are justly possessed of more wealth than they require for their present necessities, have a perfect right to abstain from labour, and live upon that surplus as long as it lasts; but no individual has any just claim to live upon the fruits of others' labour, without giving an equivalent in return.

The practice that has obtained, through a long period of time, in all countries called civilized, of taxing the labour of the industrious classes, by means of monopolies, sinecures, exclusive privileges, interest of money, rents of houses, workshops, and lands, tampering with the currency, &c., has been the means of stripping those classes of the wealth they have produced, and reducing them to the lowest scale of existence, whilst the idle classes and the possessors of accumulated wealth have been rolling in luxury and abundance. This is fully exemplified in the statistical table of this class. This class, with the exception of the paupers, &c.—though they are generally useless to society—receive a larger proportion of the wealth produced by the labour of the people than any other class in society.

The economy of the Bee is the economy of nature, and the only true, unsophisticated political economy for man. The bees collect a sufficient quantity of honey in summer to serve all the industrious bees through the ensuing winter, and as winter approaches, all the idle and useless bees are expelled. With the bees there are no rents, mortgages, or interest to be paid, and no private property; but what was procured by the labour of all is freely enjoyed by all, and every bit of honey taken from the store makes their stock so much the less. Let Nature, or the God of Nature, therefore, teach man wisdom and the certain road to universal prosperity and happiness. There must be want and misery among the industrious classes, so long as the drones and idlers are permitted to extract from them three-fourths of the produce of their honest labour.

## THE NON-PRODUCING, THE USELESS, AND THE MISCHIEVOUS CONSUMERS.

13

	Population.	Annual Income.	Individual Income.	No. in Family	Family Income	Comp. with Labourers.
1. Temporal Peers, including Peeresses in their own right	12,900	£. 5,160,000	£. 400	25	£. 10,000	227
2. Baronets .....	12,915	3,022,110	234	15	3,510	80
3. Knights and Esquires.....	110,000	22,000,000	200	10	2,000	45
4. Gentlemen and Ladies living on Incomes.....	280,000	28,000,000	100	8	800	18
5. Freeholders of the better sort, or largest Income .....	385,000	19,250,000	50	7	350	8
6. Freeholders of smaller Income .....	1,050,000	21,000,000	20	6	120	2½ nearly
7. Shipowners letting Ships for Freight only.....	43,750	5,250,000	120	8	960	22 nearly
8. Lunatics and others under Mental Derangement.....	4,000	160,000	40	2	80	1½ full
9. Persons confined in Prison for Debt .....	17,500	105,000	6	4	24	⅙
10. Vagrants, Rogues, Gypsies, Vagabonds, Thieves, Swindlers, Prostitutes, &c., in and out of Prisons, including their Wives and Children as usual .....	308,741	3,704,892	12	4	48	1⅙
11. Sundries included in the above, having Incomes from the Funds, &c., also Trustees, Guardians, Officers of Charities, &c.....	.....	5,211,063	4	.....	.....	⅙
12. Paupers receiving Relief .....	774,200	6,000,000				
Sixth Class.....	2,999,006	118,863,065				
Fifth Class.....	1,105,300	41,717,280				
Fourth Class .....	379,216	15,859,880				
Third Class .....	1,651,300	74,475,600				
Second Class .....	2,069,250	79,863,000				
First Class .....	8,892,731	99,742,547				
Total Population and Annual Income in 1812.....	17,096,803	430,521,372				

## ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF PROPERTY

IN THE BRITISH EMPIRE,

IN 1812,

ACCORDING TO COLQUHOUN.

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	£.	£.
EUROPE.—Great Britain and Ireland, including the Navy .....	2,736,640,000	2,758,801,330
Dependencies.....	22,161,330	
AMERICA.—British Possessions in North America .....	46,575,360	228,810,224
British West India Colonies.....	100,014,864	
Conquered West India Colonies ....	75,220,000	
AFRICA.—British Settlements .....	550,400	4,770,500
Conquered do. ....	4,220,100	
ASIA.—British Colonies & Dependencies	11,280,000	38,721,090
Conquered do.	27,441,000	
TERRITORIAL.—Possessions under the management of the East India Company .....		1,072,427,751
Total.....		<u>£4,096,580,895</u>

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The National Revenue of 430 millions is about 10 $\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. per annum upon the whole National Capital.